

**What is claimed is:**

1 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image  
information for reducing image quality of image information  
and conducting a digital copy by means of a digital information  
5 compression technology, comprising:

a reverse section for reversing a specific code by means of  
a code stream of said image information, and outputting  
it after reducing image quality of said image information  
by means of reverse of one code or a plurality of codes.

10 2 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image  
information according to claim 1, wherein said reverse section  
reverses a code on a coefficient table of discrete cosine  
transform.

15 3 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image  
information according to claim 1, wherein said reverse section  
reverses a code within a range in which a code stream can be  
combined by means of a digital information compression  
technology without changing data length of said code stream.

20 4 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image  
information according to claim 1, wherein said reverse section  
changes a deterioration degree of image quality by specifying  
a reverse position of a code.

25 5 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image  
information according to claim 1, wherein said reverse section  
specifies a reverse position by means of coordinates within

each unit block of image information.

6 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 1, wherein said reverse section conducts image quality reduction of image information by  
5 dividing it into two steps or more than or equal to three steps.

7 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 1, wherein said reverse section conducts image quality reduction for at least one of a Y component, a Cr component and a Cb component of image information.

8 An apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 1, wherein said reverse section has a random number generator for generating a random number for designating existence of code reverse.  
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9 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image information for reducing image quality of image information and conducting a digital copy by means of a digital information compression technology, comprising steps of:  
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reversing a specific code by means of a code stream of said image information, and outputting it after reducing image  
20 quality of said image information by means of reverse of one code or a plurality of codes.

10 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 9, wherein said reverse step includes a step of reversing a code on a coefficient table of  
25 discrete cosine transform.

11 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 9, wherein said reverse step includes a step of reversing a code within a range in which a code stream can be combined by means of a digital information compression technology without changing data length of said code stream.

12 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 9, wherein said reverse step includes a step of changing a deterioration degree of image quality by specifying a reverse position of a code.

13 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 9, wherein said reverse step includes a step of specifying a reverse position by means of coordinates within each unit block of image information.

14 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 9, wherein said reverse step includes a step of conducting image quality reduction of image information by dividing it into two steps or more than or equal to three steps.

15 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image information according to claim 9, wherein said reverse step includes a step of conducting image quality reduction for at least one of a Y component, a Cr component and a Cb component of image information.

16 A method of controlling image quality reduction of image

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information according to claim 9, wherein said reverse step includes of a step of generating a random number for designating existence of code reverse.

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